

MANUAL
OF THE
SELECT DEGREE

WITH THE
RITE OF RAISING,

FORM OF
*OPENING AND CLOSING SELECT DEGREE,
AND CEREMONY OF INSTALLATION.*

ISSUED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE
DOMINION COUNCIL,
ROYAL TEMPLARS OF TEMPERANCE.

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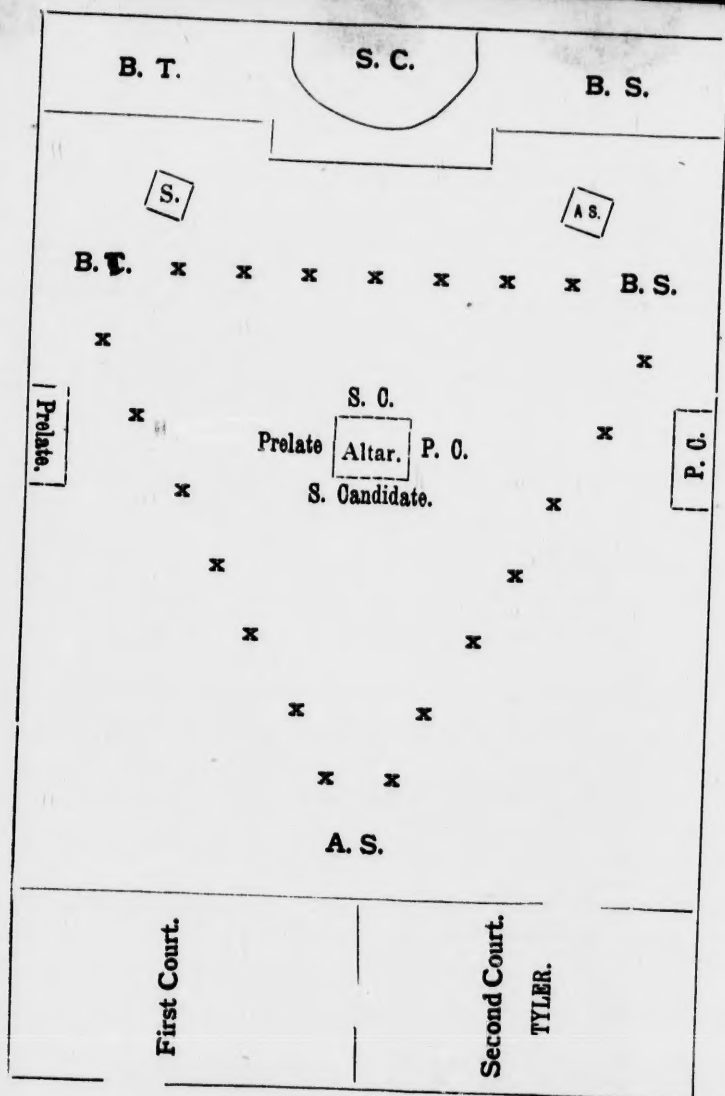


Diagram of Council Chambers.

❖ SELECT ❖ DEGREE ❖

OPENING.

S. C.—I am about to open this Council in the Select Degree for Beneficiary work. If any are present who have not been raised to this Degree, they will be kind enough to withdraw. Officers will assume their positions. Bro. Steward :

S.—Select Councilor.

S. C.—You will see that the Tyler is on duty ; that the Book of Love and our Emblem are properly disposed on the altar, and that all present are in possession of the Quarterly Token and Degree Word.

[The S. C. may appoint an assistant to aid the S., and fill the chairs of absent officers. The S. will report at the altar.]

S.—All present are Select Templars.

S. C.—Brothers and Sisters : We are about to enter upon the discussion of business ; let moderation, fraternal regard, and a high sense of personal honor, influence all our deliberations, and make this Communication pleasant and profitable. Remembering the sacred word of our Order, let us (*sing our opening ode and*) in the attitude of devotion, pray that God may be with us during this session.

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[OPENING ODE.]

OPENING PRAYER.

[Members all assume the attitude of devotion.]

Prelate.—Our Father in Heaven, we pray for Thy presence and blessing. We believe thou art faithful to those who are true to themselves, and who open their hearts to Thee. If we have been proud and selfish, may we bow humbly before Thee, repent, and ask Thy aid to follow in the footsteps of the Saviour, who went about doing good. Help us to love our neighbors as Thou wouldst have us do, and in word and deed be blessed in doing good unto others, for Thy sake. May this select circle here convened be inspired with fresh zeal to labor in the cause of Temperance; impart unto us wisdom to devise, and ability to execute such measures as will advance the interests of our beloved cause. May the spirit of love control our hearts and pervade our discussions at this Communication. We ask these favors in the name of Jesus Christ, Thy Son. Amen.

S. C.—This Council is now opened in the Select Degree for the transaction of Beneficiary business.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1.—Admission of Members in Waiting.
- 2.—Reading Minutes of previous Degree Communication.
- 3.—Correspondence.
- 4.—Raising.
- 5.—Reports of Committees and Officers.
- 6.—Has the Monthly Return been made to the D. C.?
- 7.—The B. S. will read List of Members in Arrears.
- 8.—Unfinished Business.
- 9.—New Business.
- 10.—Closing.

CLOSING.

S. C.—Bro. Secretary, what are the receipts of the meeting? [*Secretary Reports.*] Has the Treasurer received that amount? [*Treasurer Reports.*] Bro. Steward, are the Rituals and private properties of this Degree placed under lock and key? [*Steward must report in the affirmative before the Degree can be closed. The private properties include the Sceptre, Triangle, Incense Urn and Officers' Jewels, Badges, or Vestments of Officers belonging to the Degree.*]

S. C.—Let us sing the Doxology and be dismissed.

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Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below ;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Prelate.—And now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all we can ask or think, be Dominion and Power and Glory forever. Amen.

S. C.—Extend salutation—advance sign—counter-sign. Support the Temple. This communication of the Select Degree of _____ Council No. _____, is closed.

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RAISING.

[When the degree is to be conferred, the P. C. and S. should see that all arrangements are completed, so as to prevent mistakes or confusion after the candidate has entered the Council Chamber. The Urn of Incense, ready to light, should stand upon the Bible, and before admitting the candidate, a trial living triangle should be ordered by the S. C., that every member present should know the proper position, to make the figure as nearly perfect as possible.]

S. C.—Bro. Steward, are there any members of our Order awaiting to be raised to this Select Degree?

[Steward retires to Court and reports at the altar, under Degree sign.]

S.—Select Councilor, I find Bro. _____ Sister _____ awaiting your pleasure, desirous of being raised to the Select Degree.

S. C.—Bro. Secretary, has this *Brother* properly presented his petition to the Council? [*Secretary answers.*] Has *he* been legally elected to this Select Degree? [*Secretary Answers.*] Has the Dominion Council issued a certificate to *him*? [*Secretary Answers.*] Does any member know any reason why this *Brother* should not now be raised to the Select Degree? [*No objection being made the S. C. will proceed.*] The P. C. and B. S. will retire to the Court with the S. The P. C. will test the member in all the private work of the Royal Degree, assuring himself that the *Brother* is in good standing in that Degree. The Secretary will collect the unpaid portion of fee, if any, and also the Certificate Fee, First Monthly Assessment, and Assessment Fee.

P. C.—(*At Altar.*) Select Councilor, I find Bro. _____ in possession of all the private work of the Royal Degree, and am satisfied that *he* is in good standing in the Order.

B. S.—(*At Altar.*) Select Councilor, the fees are paid.

[Steward remains in the Court with Candidate.]

S. C.—Brothers and Sisters, we are now about to admit to this Select Temple *another faithful member* of

our Order. I desire and shall expect your attention and assistance. Bro. P. C., you will introduce the candidate.

[P. C. opens the inner door. The Steward, with candidate by the arm, follows the P. C. to altar. If more than one candidate, Assistant Steward assists. S. C. calls Council up as S. enters.]



P. C.—Select Councilor, Officers and Members, it affords me pleasure to introduce to you our worthy *Brother*—— who desires to become a member of our Select Degree. [*P. C. takes his official position.*]

S. C.—With Hope we bid you Welcome!

Prelate.—With Love we bid you Welcome!

Members.—Welcome to our Select Temple!

S. C.—Dear *Brother*——

Do you remember the solemn declarations in our Creed, Pledge and Covenant, which you signed, under seal, before you were admitted to this Order?

(*Can. answers.*)

Do you recall the solemn obligation at our altar, by which you confirmed your declarations?

(*Can. answers.*)

Have you faithfully endeavored to keep these vows by honestly performing your duty to the temperance cause, and to this Order?

(*Can. answers.*)

Have you seriously considered the step you are about to take, the responsibility you will be expected to assume, and the duties laid upon members of this Degree?

(*Can. answers.*)

It is with pleasure that we open to you the portals of this Inner Temple where the Select Templar alone may find a safe retreat.

In the Royal Degree you learned the lessons of HOPE, SIMPLICITY and FRATERNITY. In this second Degree we teach the lessons of LOVE, EQUALITY and PROTECTION :—LOVE, the second principle in our three-fold motto ; EQUALITY, the second element of our mystic emblem ; PROTECTION, the second great aim of our magnificent system.

[Steward holds emblem in his hand ready to take it apart immediately after he gives the candidate the grip.]

[FIRST ODE.]

P. C.—The clasped hands (*S. gives grip*) in the true fraternal grip of a Royal Templar is the Emblem of Equality and Love, and exemplifies the union of purpose and heart, which exists among all who have sincerely knelt in our Select Temple. We are all equals, as the bars of our Emblem are equal (*S. holds up the three bars, so disposed that they appear exact in length and shape*) ; not in talent, not in care, but in affection and position as Select Templars, and in responsibility and reward, according to our several abilities. We are equals, as the children of the same family are equals, each in his own order or sphere, and yet all are equal here. Our Divine Councilor said, "Ye call me Master and Lord, and ye say well, for so I am. I have given an example that ye also should do as I have done to you. For one is your Master, even Christ, and all ye are brethren." Men love to be viewed as above their fellows, and when this passion

has been nurtured by education, it seems almost impossible for them to realize "We are all brethren." We aim here to impress this great truth, and within the veil of this select retreat claim that all are equal, and that God is our Father. Favored we may be, but those who move in the humblest walks of life, for whom fortune has no smile, and the world no helping hand, are the children of our Heavenly Father. They are our brothers and our sisters ; it is our duty to labor for their restoration, elevation and safety. If you would join with us in this Select circle, you must divest yourself of every selfish and unhallowed thought, and in the true feeling of brotherly love take your stand as a Select Templar. Do impure thoughts and feelings dwell within you ? Here let them be sacrificed. Have you offended or grieved a member's spirit ? Now, let confession bring God-like forgiveness to heal the wound, for within this Degree Prosperity can dwell only when Peace and Purity and Harmony reign. Love is the chain that unites us as one. Its golden links entwine about every heart, while angel hands fasten it to the Throne on High. Remember the Christian injunction : " Be kindly affectioned one to another, with brotherly love, in honor preferring one another."

[SECOND ODE.]

Prelate.—LOVE is the basis of all true and noble action. In Love was born the great temperance movement, and in Love must it be continued. Hence, have we chosen Love as the central principle of our Order, and placed the word in that position upon our magic Emblem, the TRIANGLE. Love to God, our country, and our fellow man, must be the power that impels us to action. Love dwells in the family, and it becomes the fittest earthly type of heaven.

Love rules in the social circle, and by its laws—purer and higher than any written upon parchment—it is the bond of neighbors. Love is the soul of patriotism, and binds the citizen to his country. Love inspires the heart and lifts it up to God, Who is all in all, for God is Love. Love dwells in Heaven. It is the spirit which animates that world of bliss, and fills its inhabitants with perpetual joy. Love was the gospel proclaimed with the advent of our blessed Saviour, and here we raise a temple to Love, that Love may dwell with us. Listen to another admonition from its sacred teachings.

[S. puts Triangle together and places it on Bible, with base toward Candidate, Incense Urn in centre.]

S. C.—It is appointed unto man once to die. Death comes to the wise, and their wisdom is no defence. He touches the unlearned and their ignorance affords them no protection. He lays his icy hand upon whom the world calls great and noble, and stills with the same hand the throbbings of the hearts of the lowly. He comes to the rich upon his couch of purple, and to the poor man on his bed of straw. He breathes upon the youthful, and life's gay frost-work of bliss melts away, like snow before the sun. He touches with his skeleton sceptre the brow of the strong in full manhood, and the silver cord of life is loosed, and the wheel stands still at the cistern. The grave is the house appointed for all the living. Even to these sad thoughts Love lends its lustre, by proclaiming death the gate to endless joy, whose bars have been broken by the Prince of Peace. But death brings not only sadness, but often want to the happy homes that Love has reared and filled with light and gladness by calling for the husband, the father or breadwinner,

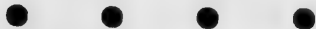
who has not made provision for the change. Death has darkened many a dying hour with thoughts of the unprotected fireside, around which cluster the dearest affections ; thoughts perchance of the loving wife and little ones to be left to the cold charity of a hard practical world. He that " provides not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, has denied the faith, and is become worse than an infidel." How happy he who in such an hour is comforted by a knowledge that his love, forethought, and diligence, has provided for such a trying time, and how happy every member of our fraternity who is privileged to be a partner in the good work of bringing peace and strength to the bed of languishing, and comfort and sustenance to the bereaved. " Pure religion, and undefiled before God and the Father, is this : To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep unspotted from the world." Love ministers to the necessities of its fellows. It relieves the distressed, binds up the broken heart, soothes the sorrowful, supports the weak, and raises up those who are bowed down. Cherish these virtues, and you shall receive your reward. Brothers and Sisters shall grasp you by the hand, and because you have patiently persevered and humbly labored for the success of the right, the blessings of the poor, the widow and the orphan, more precious far than rubies, shall attend you through life ; their prayers shall buoy you up in sickness, their hands shall plant flowers about your last resting place, and He who numbers the hairs of your head shall crown you with life immortal beyond the grave.

[THIRD ODE.]

P. C.—[*Stepping down to the Altar.*] Dear Brother
——, you have heard the teachings of this Degree.

Are you in sympathy with them? [*Member answers, I am.*] Are you sincerely in earnest in seeking a portion with us? [*Member Answers.*] If we make you a living pillar in this, our Inner Temple, may we depend upon you as a true support, prompt in meeting all your obligations, and permitting no small matter to prevent your presence at every meeting and communication? [*Member Answers.*] Are you willing to assume the vow of a Select Templar? [*Member Answers.*]

S. C.—Let all join in singing ode No. 4.



[During singing the Tyler will turn down all the lights; the P. C. will be prepared to light the incense on the altar; the Prelate will take his position immediately at the altar.]

S. C.—Dear Brother ———, you are now about to take upon yourself the solemn vow of a Select Templar, and before we proceed, we shall ask you to kneel, while the Prelate seeks the Divine blessing.

[All members assume the attitude of devotion.]

Prelate.—Great Spirit of Love, and Author of all Good, we acknowledge Thee to be our Great Councilor, and we seek Thy presence and blessing upon our work, and particularly upon Thy servant, *Brother* ———, who is before Thee. May *he* have a proper appreciation of the lessons taught here, and be deeply impressed with the solemnity of the vow *he* is about to make. We pray that Love may this night awaken new responses in *his* heart, and that Thy Spirit may give *him* strength to keep and perform the duties *he* owes to Thee, to *his* country, to *his* fellow men and to *himself*. We ask all in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

S. C.—[*To Candidate.*] You will remain kneeling. Members support the Temple.

S. C.—You will assume the attitude of obligation. [*Explains.*]

[P. C. lights incense, which should be gauged to burn until the ceremony is completed.]

SELECT VOW.

I, _____, —believing that the Great God of Love heareth all things,—and surrounded by this triangle—of living, throbbing hearts,—solemnly promise and covenant,—that I will faithfully adhere to and preserve—all previously assumed obligations of this Order;—that I will sacredly keep—and never reveal to any one—not a member of this Degree—any of its private work or business;—that I will yield cheerful obedience—to all the just requirements of this Degree or of the Dominion Council;—that I will never propose—or vote for the admission of any member to this Degree—whose previous life does not afford satisfactory evidence—that he is a fit and proper person to receive its benefits—and one likely to bring strength and favor—to our Degree and Order;—that I will attend all the meetings of this Degree—as regularly as possible;—that I will sincerely endeavor to live consistently with the teachings of this Degree—and govern all my conduct towards its members—by loving fraternal regard and courtesy;—all of which, without the slightest reservation,—and with a deliberate purpose to perform,—I offer as the vow of a Select Templar.

S. C.—You will rise upon your feet a Select Templar of Temperance. Like the flame ascending

from this altar, may the emotions of your soul ever ascend to Him who loveth and careth for all. This flame is the beautiful emblem of love, and as it mounts upward to God let it say for you :—

Oh ! may my love to Thee,
Pure, warm, and changeless be,
A living fire !

S. C.—Members ! Come to order as Royal Templars.

[*To the Candidate.*] As a Select Templar, you are entitled to a place in our Temple as a pillar. The Steward will show you that place. [*S. gives him place. P. C. and Prelate takes place in line. Members dress off to right and left to extend length of Triangle.*]

S. C.—[*Standing in centre by altar.*] Support the Temple. Now stands our dome secure, upheld by living pillars, each supporting the other, with manly honest firmness, and in the true fraternal spirit of Love and Equality.

Ye Pillars of Temperance, adorn and sustain
With Love and with firmness, this Temple far shining ;
Keep Love's altar flaming ; let Hope still remain ;
Be faithful in duty ; in heart all combining ;
Your lips guide with wisdom, with Truth grace the brow,
And never forget the Select Templar's vow.

Come to order. Give a hearty greeting to the *brother* we have selected and raised to-night.

[FIVE MINUTES RECESS.]

S. C.—The Steward will take up the Quarterly Token and the Degree Pass.

Steward.—[*At altar.*] I find Brother ——— without the Select word. [*Report other members if any.*]

S. C.—Bro. Steward, you will present our new-made member to receive the private work of the Degree.

[Steward escorts new member to Select Councilor's chair].

B. S.—Select Councilor.

S. C.—Brother Secretary.

B. S.—I do not find the name of this Brother attached to our Covenant.

S. C.—Brother ———, you must sign our covenant before I am privileged to entrust you with our Degree word or Secret work.

[Member signs Covenant Book and receives Certificate.]

[ODE NO. 5.]

S.—Select Councilor, I present *Brother* ———, who is now entitled to the full confidence of the Degree.

[*S. C.* gives Secret work.]

S. C.—Brother Steward, you will escort our friend to the Court, and permit *him* to work *his* way into the Council.

[Members applaud after the member has successfully found his seat, and Steward returns to his post.]

✱ INSTALLATION ✱

[The officers should be installed at the first regular communication of the term. On that night the acting P. C. should select a staff of officers to assist in the ceremony, and if a Dist. Deputy or officer of a higher grade of Council is not present, he will act as Grand Councilor. At the hour of installation he will retire to the Court with his staff, and there instruct them in their duties. He will announce his readiness to perform the ceremony by the Select Signal.]

Tyler.—Select Councilor.

S. C.—Bro. Tyler.

Tyler.—The Grand Councilor and staff seek admission.

S. C.—Bro. ——— you will be kind enough to act as P. C., and introduce the Grand Councilor and staff. The Steward will be prepared to receive the officers with grand honors.

[P. C. and officers approach altar in regular form.]

P. C.—S. C., officers and members, it affords me pleasure to introduce to you acting Grand Councilor ——— and staff.

[Grand honors.]

G. C.—S. C., officers and members: I thank you for the hearty and select welcome given us. We are here for the purpose of installing the officers of this Degree.

S. C.—The officers of this Degree will surrender their chairs, books and vestments to the installing officers. Grand Councilor ——— I surrender to you this emblem of authority (*sceptre*) and all other property pertaining to my office.

[G. C. assumes chair.]

G. C.—The Ben. Sec. will read the names of the officers elect of this Degree, and as their names are read they will present themselves at the altar. * * *
Select Councilor : Are these the officers elect for the Select Degree of ——— Council No. ———?

S. C.—They are.

G. C.—Were they elected in strict accordance with our laws and usages?

S. C.—They were.

G. C.—Have the bonds of the B. T. and B. S. been properly executed?

S. C.—They have.

G. C.—Will you be good enough to place them in my hands now, for transmission to the Dominion Secretary?

[The G. C. having assured himself that the bonds are good and sufficient and properly executed he will proceed.]

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G. C.—Officers elect : You have been selected for positions of honor and trust ; for the present term the success of this Degree will largely depend upon your faithful discharge of duty ; feeling the responsibility thus laid upon you, are you each willing to accept the office to which you have been elected?

Officers.—I am.

Installing Prelate—O Lord, our Great Councilor, to whom all hearts are open, grant us Thy presence and blessing, that our work may be done in harmony with Thy will. These servants now before our altar have been chosen for our officers, and have signified their willingness to assume the duties involved. We pray that they may fully realize the importance of their work, and the sacredness of promises made before Thee. Guide and bless them with the spirit of Thy grace, and keep them true and faithful to their duties. We ask all in the name of Thy Son our Redeemer. Amen.

G. C.—Officers elect : You will assume the Royal Templar's attitude for obligation, and repeat after me the following

OBLIGATION :

I [*name*] before this altar of Love—fully realizing the solemnity of a pledge—promise upon my honor—that I will discharge to the best of my ability—the duties of the office to which I have been elected—in strict conformity with the constitution and rules—promulgated by the Dominion Council—and the By-laws of this Degree.

G. C.—The Installing Steward will conduct the Tyler to the Court, where the Installing Tyler will read to him the duties of his office as laid down in the constitution, give him necessary instructions, and place upon him the badge of his office.

The I. S. will instruct the S. in his work, read to him the duties laid down in the constitution, and invest him in office.

The I. S. will present the Prelate to the I. P. who will receive him, and place upon him the vestment of office:

The I. S. will read the duties of B. T. as laid down in the constitution, and escort that officer to his position.

The I. S. will read the duties of B. S., as laid down in the constitution, and escort that officer to his position.

The I. S. will present the S. C.

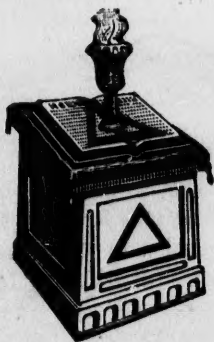
I. S.—Grand Councilor: Permit me to introduce Brother ——— who has already been installed S. C. of this Council, and who by virtue of his office is entitled to preside in this Degree.

G. C.—Select Councilor: By virtue of your office you are the presiding and executive officer of this Degree, and it is with pleasure that I invest you with the office [*places vestment on his shoulders*] and place in your hands the emblem of authority, [*sceptre*] by which you will control the movements of members when in select communication. It is your special duty to insist upon a proper observance of the ritual, rules and usages of this Degree. You will enter upon the discharge of your duties.

G. C.—Bro. ———, as P. C. of this Degree you will occupy the seat of honor. It will devolve upon you to criticise and point out all defects in the performance of ceremonies, test and introduce visitors and candidates, and see that the courtesies of the Council Chamber are properly observed. The I. S. will introduce you to the I. P. C., who will invest you in office.

[I. P. C. places vestment upon him and gives his position.]

G C.—By the authority vested in me as representative of the Grand Councilor, I declare that the officers of this Degree are fully installed and entitled to perform the functions of their offices.



presenta-
officers
to per-

